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DEVIZES RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and of the
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
for the year

1963.

DEVIZES RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Public Health Department,
Browfort,
DEVIZES,
Wiltshire.

Telephone: Devizes 701.

To The Chairman and Members of the Devizes Rural District Council :-

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the state of the public health of the District during the year 1963. This is the eighth year that I have served as your Medical Officer of Health.

The continued help I have received from Committee Chairmen, Members and the officials of the Council is greatly appreciated.

I also wish to acknowledge the assistance given me by the Health Visitors, Social Workers and Voluntary Organisations in the more personal health difficulties which arose.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant,

KENNETH J. ADAMS.

Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

K.J. ADAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Univ.Lond.).

Senior Public Health Inspector:

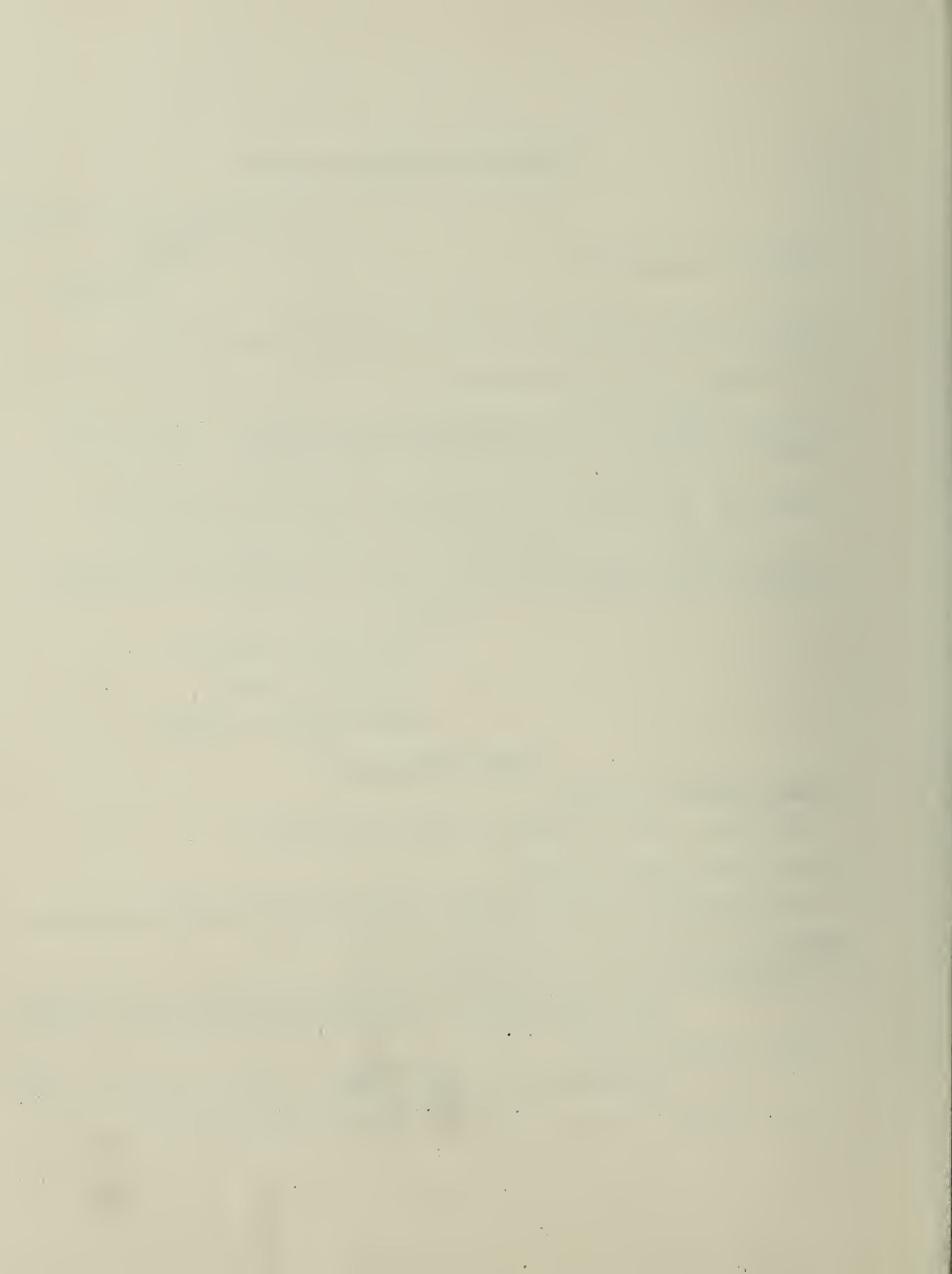
G.E. WILLIAMS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., (also Surveyor and Water Engineer).

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

A.A. WHITING, A.I.A.S., A.M.I.P.H.E., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.
(Also Deputy Surveyor and Deputy Water Engineer) - Resigned
June 1963.

D.W.E. JESSETT, M.A.P.H.I. (Commenced duties as Deputy Surveyor and Deputy
Water Engineer in August 1963).

E.W.J. MILLER, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Commenced duties in October 1963).



GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	....	....	....	....	63,520.
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	...	....			14,500.
Number of Inhabited Houses		....	....	....	4,130.
Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1963.		....	....	....	£282,234.
Estimated Product of 1d rate		....	....	....	£1,175.

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth and Death Rates compared with other Areas (Births and Deaths per 1,000 population)

			<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>
Devizes Rural District	....	....	17.79	10.88
England and Wales	....	....	18.2	12.2
Wiltshire	....	....	20.21	11.5
Devizes Borough	....	....	14.86	7.56

In calculating Birth and Death rates, area comparability factors are issued by the Registrar General to "correct" irregularities in the age and sex structure of the population, and also to take into account any high mortality due to the presence of residential institutions.

Births and Infantile Deaths

	<u>Legitimate</u>		<u>Illegitimate</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Live Births	123	98	6	1	228
Still Births	1	3	0	0	4
Deaths under 1 years	4	1	0	0	5
Deaths under 4 weeks	2	0	0	0	2
Deaths under 1 week	1	0	0	0	1

Infantile Mortality Rate

The infantile mortality rate is the number of deaths among infants of one year of age per 1,000 registered live births. There were five deaths among infants under one year of age to 228 births in the area. This is too small a figure to calculate for comparative purposes, an accurate infantile mortality rate. The national rate is 20.9 deaths among infants under one year of age per thousand live births and the Wiltshire rate is 20.75. Our approximate figure compares quite well with these.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year :-

Measles	....	....	116
Scarlet Fever		....	20
Whooping Cough		....	2
Tuberculosis		....	1
Food Poisoning		....	1
Poliomyelitis		....	1
Pneumonia	....	....	1

The cases of Scarlet Fever had no single source and were scattered in the Parishes. One school child did exhibit a nasal discharge which contained Haemolytic streptococci. She was kept from school until non-infectious. All cases of Scarlet Fever notified are followed up to find whether there are household contacts who are food handlers. On one occasion two persons in the same household, one working as a milker, the other in a school kitchen, had to cease doing that particular work.

The patient with Tuberculosis was suffering from an abscess in the glands of the neck. This is most unusual now that all cattle are Tuberculin Tested. The County Veterinary Officer conducted further investigations and it was found that a cow giving milk which the patient may have consumed had developed tuberculosis.

The diagnosis of Poliomyelitis though very properly made at the time, became disproved later at the Isolation Hospital, the symptoms being due to another of the child virus infections. Nevertheless, prompt isolation of all close contacts was made at the time and contacts in class had their polio vaccination records checked. Where immunity was inadequate, they were offered a dose of Sabin vaccine. Close contacts who were already isolated were given this at home, the remainder and some young members of staff were vaccinated at the School.

Infected Milk


Over three quarters of the milk consumed in Devizes area is unpasteurised. Consequently, it is vital that a close check is kept upon its cleanliness and safety. Sampling continues regularly under the Wiltshire County Council's delegated scheme, and details are given later, but I again wish to point out to the Council the weakness of the law in controlling *Brucella abortus* infection of cattle.

The Department is at times in possession of serological tests which show the great likelihood that a certain milk sample is infected. Unfortunately, this matter cannot be proved for at least six weeks and even then isolation of the actual organisms is a chancy affair. Meanwhile the milk continues to be sold.

In order to increase the chance of isolating *Brucella abortus*, our samples are now taken to Salisbury Laboratory by car whereas formerly they went by 'bus. This enables the milk to arrive in better condition, but the six weekly interval in proving infection is present, remains unchanged. There is also lack of proper legislation to deal with cows known to be producing infected milk.

SUMMARY OF DEATHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	3	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	0	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	0	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	8	9
Diabetes	1	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	7	18
Coronary Disease, Angina	20	16
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	6
Other Heart Disease	16	26
Other Circulatory Disease	4	3
Influenza	1	1
Pneumonia	15	24
Bronchitis	7	3
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	2	0
Nephritis and Nephrosis	4	1
Congenital Malformations	2	1
Other defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	7	10
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	0
All other accidents	1	2
Suicide	1	0
TOTAL	<u>107</u>	<u>132</u>



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CAUSES OF DEATH

Again it will be noticed that Coronary Disease is one of the principal killing diseases. This disease caused by pathological narrowing of the coronary arteries seems to be associated with the western way of life. It seems to go hand in hand with a high standard of living and dietary, coupled with lack of exercise. This lack of exercise commences early in life of the younger generation used to the school 'bus and the motor-car, consequently, it is hardly surprising that pathological changes are already found in the Coronary Arteries of those aged twenty years and over, when post mortems are conducted for deaths due to other causes.

Regular moderate exercise is vital to good health particularly if you hold a sedentary occupation.

CARE OF THE ELDERLY

Many visits were carried out during the year. Some in connection with the Hedges House Group Dwelling which opened in the Spring, and others after receiving advice that an old person living alone was in difficulties. This latter problem became the more acute owing to the difficult winter.

Only once was it necessary to use National Assistance (Amendment) Act procedure, and that was in the case of an old man who had suffered a fall. Several other crises resolved themselves with the help of neighbours, home helps, and better weather.

WATER SUPPLIES

In October 1962, the North Wilts Water Board took over the Council's functions as a Water Authority, but I feel that the Council and their Officers still have a duty to guard the public health. Water samples have been taken and I have from time to time paid visits to our reservoirs.

During the year it was necessary to draw the Health Committee's attention to the intermittency of the supply which broke down on three occasions. Later I approached the Water Board about the possibility of their workmen having routine blood tests for Typhoid to which they agreed.

APPENDIX

I am indebted to Dr. C.D.L. Lycett, the County Medical Officer of Health, for the following statistics concerning vaccination and immunisation procedures in the Devizes Rural District during the year :-

DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS IMMUNISATIONS.

Year of Birth		1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1954-58	1949-53
Primary Immunisations completed during 1963.	Diphtheria	56	110	11	-	3	11	1
	Whooping Cough	56	110	11	-	2	..	-
	Tetanus	56	110	11	-	3	11	1
Reinforcement injections administered during 1963.	Diphtheria	-	14	51	13	3	51	2
	Whooping Cough	-	12	39	11	2	15	1
	Tetanus	-	12	49	12	3	45	2

SMALLPOX VACCINATIONS

Age Group	Months				Years			
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1	2-4	5-14	15
Vaccinations	4	9	4	6	12	2	8	7
Re-vaccinations	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	71

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATIONS

Age Group	2nd inject-ion.	3rd inject-ion.	4th inject-ion.	3 oral doses	3rd oral after 2 inject-ions.	4th Oral after 2 Inject-ions + 1 oral.	4th Oral after 3 injections or 3 oral.
Children born in 1963	1	-	-	7	-	-	-
Children born in 1962	11	5	-	72	-	1	-
Children born in 1961	2	21	-	34	2	2	1
Children and Young persons born 1943-1960	5	14	-	95	4	5	134
Young persons born 1933-1942	2	-	-	20	-	-	-
Others	2	9	-	25	-	-	-
Totals	23	49	-	253	6	8	135

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR & CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report for 1963.

Thank you to the Council for their appreciation and patience in matters which are sometimes tedious and repetitive.

Thank you also to your Medical Officer of Health, Clerk and Treasurer for information and help readily given.

I cordially acknowledge my indebtedness and gratitude to a loyal, competent and cheerful staff for their work throughout the year and particularly, in stemming the long gap arising from the regretted departure of Mr. Whiting.

A special word of praise, long overdue, to the Council's workmen engaged on refuse collection, sewerage and Council House maintenance, for their enduring perseverance to keep services going in the harsh arctic conditions of January and February, 1963.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

G.E. WILLIAMS.

Surveyor & Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING.

The three pronged attack on housing proceeded with zest during 1963. The three fronts are the improvement and modernisation of existing cottages, the provision of new dwellings and slum clearance. The most effective thrust was in the first front. The record in this and other fronts is as follows:- (Appendix 1 gives particulars in the form required by the County Medical Officer).

New Dwellings.

The excellently conceived and executed scheme of 19 dwellings for the elderly known as Hedges House, West Lavington, was completed early in the year. Five bungalows at The Lye, Seend were commenced in April, 1963 and completed in November, 1963.

Work was commenced on 17 dwellings and garages at The Pound, Bromham, on the 30th October, 1963.

Twenty four dwellings were erected by private enterprise.

Improvements to existing houses.

Sixty-six standard grants and 17 discretionary grants were approved in 1963.

The original improvement grant scheme was enacted by Parliament in 1951. From that date until the end on 1963, 659 dwellings have been improved. This includes 477 private dwellings and 182 Council Houses. The cost of improving the 477 private dwellings was approximately £319,478 and the amount paid in grant was approximately £123,502. The cost of improving the 182 Council Houses was £40,195.

Many of these houses were in an advanced state of decay and obsolescence and heading towards Demolition Orders. They have been given a new lease of life ranging from 15 to 30 years and more. 659 families will enjoy the labour saving, health promoting convenience of a bath, wash basin, hot water supply and W.C., instead of pigging it at the kitchen sink or galvanised bath and trudging to the abominable privy at the bottom of the garden.

In 1951 there were only 861 dwellings in the District with bathrooms. Today, because of the Council's progressive drive in regard to sewerage schemes and improvement grants there are approximately 2830 - 68% of the total number of properties in the district. A bathroom is rapidly becoming the accepted thing rather than the exception. There will soon be a higher percentage of bathrooms than in adjacent towns which have had a piped water supply and sewerage for nearly a century.

Slum Clearance.

Ten houses were demolished during the year. In one instance the Council had to demolish 3 cottages in default of the owner.

Demolition orders were made on 10 properties. Time and Place notices were served in respect of 6 properties.

Caravans.

This form of housing is used on a small scale in this district. The number of caravans licences is 42, of these, 37 are for single caravans, and 2 for 2 caravans, 1 is for 4 permanent caravans and 2 holiday caravans, 1 is for 6 caravans and 1 for 8 caravans. A permanent residential site for 15 caravans is under construction.

MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL HOUSES.

After a careful assessment of the pros and cons of maintaining their property by direct labour, the Council decided to set up an organisation in 1963.

The establishment consisted of 1 Carpenter, 1 Plumber, 1 Bricklayer, 3 Painters, 1 labourer and 1 plumber's mate. Difficulty was experienced in getting a bricklayer and painter for a good part of the year so we were not at full strength. By the middle of the year a force of reliable, well skilled men was assembled and working smoothly.

The long and severe winter left a heavy trail of damage to houses, particularly plumbing installations, eaves gutters, paths, roads. Its aftermath will be felt for many years. In order to minimise the inconvenience and damage caused by frozen pipes, the Council decided to improve the insulation of plumbing installations. Good progress was made in this work which will probably be completed before the winter of 1964/65. This will fortify and give full justification to the policy of making Council house tenants responsible for frost damage to plumbing installations.

The Council owns 944 dwellings and 104 garages, together with offices, stores, workshops and sewerage installations briefly described under the heading "Sewerage". The main task of the building organisation is to repair and maintain Council dwellings in addition to the other property.

From the commencement of the Direct labour organisation on the 25th January, 1963 until 31st December, 1963, 1528 notifications of repairs were received involving some 1904 jobs. These can be split into the following categories:-
Bricklayer: 460. Carpenter: 318. Painter: 56.
Plumber: 844. Electrician: 174. Drainage: 52.

These jobs ranged from the re-washing of a kitchen tap to the modernisation of the Police House at Seend which was purchased by the Council.

What should be the aims and objects of a building maintenance organisation ?

I suggest they are as follows:-

- (1) To keep all the Council's property in a sound state of repair.

The value of this capital asset is now approaching three million pounds so what we are discussing is not peanuts !

- (2) To ensure that the standard of materials and workmanship is good.

- (3) To give prompt attention to defects as they arise so that tenants suffer the minimum inconvenience and discomfort.

- (4) To do the above things at a fair and reasonable cost.

The organisation has not been going for one year yet so it is too early to assess how we are measuring up to all the above aims.

This much may be said with absolute certainty : tenants complaints are dealt with expeditiously and the standard of workmanship is superior to that which obtained when repairs were farmed out.

There are among the tenantry many building craftsmen who are knowledgable in these matters. They are disinterested but well informed witnesses. Several have told me of their own volition that the standard of work is much superior to some that was formerly done by Contractors.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

SEWERAGE.

The tempo of progress in the construction of sewerage schemes was very slow compared with recent years. Construction of the Potterne Stage 3 scheme commenced in January and was completed in November. The scheme embraces a small part of Devizes Borough and Roundway parish. An Agreement was negotiated with the Borough Council for the treatment of sewage from that part of The Fairway which is in the borough.

Modern sewage works are now operating in the following Parishes:-

Erlestoke.	Easterton.
Market Lavington.	Bromham.
Urchfont (including	Rowde.
Wedhampton).	Stanton St. Bernard.
Seend.	Etchilhampton.
Potterne.	West Lavington.
Great Cheverell.	Little Cheverell.

Nine sewage works and 12 pumping stations and approximately 33 miles of sewers have been constructed at a total cost in the region of £430,000 over the last few years.

It is one thing to provide a sewerage system, it is another to get properties connected thereto. Property owners are often involved in heavy costs arising from the scrapping or renewal of existing drains, the provision of sanitary appliances, bathrooms etc. Many technical, physical and financial problems arise which owners wish to eschew notwithstanding the advantages that accrue from modern sanitary facilities.

Very good progress was made during the year, 53 properties were connected to sewerage schemes.

The arctic winter caused a complete freeze up of some of the smaller sewage works and created a major thawing problem. Sewage works are often in exposed sites and there is little that we can do to prevent freezing.

The men employed on maintenance worked long hours in the bitter cold to keep the works in operation. Considerable damage was done to concrete work, rendering and valves.

TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS.

The number of applications submitted under the Town & Country Planning Acts and the Building Byelaws were as follows:-

Total number of applications:	392 (An increase of 8.5% over 1962).
Building Byelaws :	251 approved.
Town & Country Planning Acts:	194 approved. 30 refused. 10 withdrawn after negotiations.

There was one appeal to the Minister which was refused.
Two appeals were withdrawn.

The scarcity and high cost of building land in urban areas leads developers to seek sites in rural areas. Several applications for sizable housing estates were considered and these mean protracted negotiations with applicants and prospective purchasers concerning the type of development, layout, road pattern, density, access, provision of services etc., long before formal application is lodged.

It seems doubtful whether some of the approved estates will materialise in the foreseeable future and to that extent some of this work may be abortive.

Building activity, much of it in improvement and reconstruction work, continues at a high level. All builders are heavily committed and inspections and tests of work proceeding over the whole of the area takes up much of your officer's time.

REFUSE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL.

The Council again considered instituting a weekly instead of fortnightly collection of refuse but decided against it on the grounds of cost.

Melksham U.D.C., ran into difficulties in the disposal of refuse and, following negotiations in January, the Council agreed to deal at their tip with all refuse sent from the U.D.C., for the sum of £980 p.a., this mutually beneficial arrangement commenced on the 1st February, 1963.

The total cost of collection and disposal for the year ended 31st March, 1963 was £6,814 from which has to be deducted £2,264 for income received, giving a nett cost of £4,550.

The approximate cost of the service per head of population was $6/3\frac{1}{2}$ d. The Ministry of Housing & Local Government prepare each year an Annual Return of Local Authority costs - the main purpose of this is to enable Local Authorities to see how their costs compare with other approximately similar Authorities. If costs are much higher for a roughly similar service the implication is that the service is not run efficiently. The converse also applies. How do the Council's costs compare with others? The average cost per head of the 54 rural Authorities included in the return is 12/8d - your cost is $6/3\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Costs have been obtained from all the R.D.C's in Wiltshire. Although conditions are not exactly similar in any of these Authorities, the following table shows that the Council's costs (which include disposal for a population of 23,000) compare very favourably.

<u>Authority.</u>	<u>Population.</u>	<u>Cost.</u>	<u>Frequency of collection.</u>
Amesbury.	22,729	£10,500	Weekly.
Bradford & Melksham.	12,739	N/A	"
Calne & Chippenham.	31,459	£19,000	Half fortnightly Half weekly.
Cricklade & Wootton Bassett.	17,891	£8,000	Weekly.
Devizes.	14,472	£4,550	Fortnightly.
	(Disposal only, 23,000)		
Highworth.	27,712	N/A	Weekly.
Malmesbury.	10,122	-	Weekly service pending.
Marlborough & Ramsbury.	9,963	£7,000	Weekly.
Mere & Tisbury.	10,970	-	Fortnightly.
Pewsey.	16,991	£5,080	1/3 weekly. 2/3 fortnightly.
Salisbury & Wilton.	19,872	£6,000	1/3 weekly. 2/3 fortnightly.
Warminster & Westbury.	13,026	N/A	Fortnightly.

Revenue from salvage was down by £172.9.6 compared with 1962. No buyer could be found for baled waste paper or the lighter ferrous metals and the price of scrap iron was reduced. The total quantity of salvage collected was : Scrap metal £135.10. Rags £54. Twenty five per cent of this sum (£47.7.6) was paid in bonus to the workmen engaged on this service.

WATER SUPPLY.

Since the transference of the Council's undertaking to the North Wilts Water Board its main function in regard to water is confined to keeping an eye on purity and ensuring that all houses have an adequate and wholesome supply.

The following are results of samples taken on various dates for bacteriological examination:-

	<u>By the Water Board.</u>	<u>By the R.D.C.</u>
No evidence of pollution:	89	30
Slight degree of pollution by non-faecal coli:	3	-

The above results are satisfactory.

Notwithstanding some interruptions in supply due mainly to plant failures, the supply has been reasonably constant. Apart from supplying new building estates no mains extensions were carried out. The Board continued development of the third borehole at Erlestoke which the Council commenced before handing over.

SHOPS.

The legal requirements in regard to shops are being observed.

FOOD PREMISES.

Food premises in the district have reached a satisfactory standard in regard to equipment and operation. The following table shows the number of premises:-

General Retail Food Shops.	Licenced premises.	Butcher's Shops.	Bake- houses.	Fried Fish Shops.	Hospitals Schools & Institutes.	Cafes & Licenced premises serving full meals.
48	46	7	6	2	24	3

RODENT CONTROL.

Regular and systematic inspection and treatment of premises has been maintained during the year. Details of visits made and the treatment carried out are shown on the following table. Sewers in most of the larger villages were test baited and results showed no infestation. The Council continues to share the services of a Rodent Operator with the Devizes Borough Council and with co-operation on both sides the arrangement works satisfactorily.

	Type of property.				
	Non-agricultural.				(5) Agri- cultu- ral.
	(1) Local Auth- ority.	(2) Dwelling houses (incl. Council houses.	(3) All other (incl. business premises.	(4) Total of cols (1) (2) & (3)	
(1) Number of properties in Local Authorities' district.	9	3999	244	4252	845
(2) Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification. Number of such properties found to be infested by:-	-	45	3	48	-
Common) Major.	-	3	1	4	-
Rat.) Minor.	-	20	14	34	-
Ship) Major.	-	-	-	-	-
Rat.) Minor.	-	-	-	-	-
House) Major.	-	6	3	9	-
mouse.) Minor.	-	1	-	1	-
(3) Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act. Number of such properties found to be infested by:	9	2804	141	2954	-
Common) Major.	3	35	4	42	-
Rat.) Minor.	4	123	4	131	-
Ship) Major.	-	-	-	-	-
Rat.) Minor.	-	-	-	-	-
House) Major.	-	-	-	-	-
mouse.) Minor.	-	5	-	5	-

Continued:

	Type of property.				
	Non-agricultural.				(5)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
(4) Total number of properties otherwise inspected e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose.	-	-	-	-	-
(5) Total inspections carried out incl. re-inspections.	36	3416	120	3572	--
(6) Number of infested properties (in secs. 2,3 & 4) treated by L.A.	7	193	26	226	24
(7) Total treatments carried out incl. re-treatments.	-	-	-	-	-
(8) Number of notices served under sec.4 of the Act.					
(a) Treatment.	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural work i.e., proofing.	-	-	-	-	-
(9) Number of cases in which default action was taken following issue of a notice under sec.4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-
(10) Legal proceedings.	-	-	-	-	-
Number of block control schemes carried out:			26.		

MILK SUPPLIES.

The Wiltshire County Council delegate to this Council their powers of licencing and sampling under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1960. The frequency of sampling was stepped up.

The number of Producer/Retailers and Distributors of raw milk was four. The number of Distributors selling heat-treated milk was 5.

Sampling results:

	Passed.	Failed.	Total.
Methylene Blue test (for keeping quality. Tuberculin tested milk).	96	16	112
Phosphatase test (for efficient pasteurisation).	35	-	35
Biological test (for presence of tubercule bacillus and brucella abortus.	37	-	37

Eight tests were void owing to excessive temperatures. In addition to the above, 12 bottle washings were taken and all were satisfactory. 49 churn washings were taken which all failed. These failures were due to inexpert cleaning and your officers gave further instruction in this matter.

ICE CREAM.

The number of premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream is 52. Every premise was found to comply with the relevant regulations.

Sampling results:

	<u>Provisional Grades of Cleanliness.</u>				
	I	II	III	IV	Total.
Various Manufacturers:	22	3	-	-	25.

The Public Health Laboratory service suggests that 50% of a vendors samples should fall into Grade I, 80% into Grades I or II, not more than 20% into Grade III and none into Grade IV. These samples were well within these limits.

In addition five lolly samples were taken and the pH values were satisfactory.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Two slaughterhouses, one solely for the requirements of a single butcher and the other serving four or five butchers in the district, have been extremely well maintained and operated. The standard of slaughtering and dressing is high resulting in first class presentation of meat.

The number of carcasses inspected and condemned was as follows:-

	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed and inspected.	563	131	32	530	1190
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCOSIS.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	1	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	20	6	-	1	10
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease.	3.55%	4.58%	3.13%	.19%	.84%
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	.19%
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS.</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	-	-	-	-	-
Generally and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with cysticercosis.	.18%	-	-	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1959.

The majority of Parishes have at least one factory in the form of village garage, builder's workshop or bakery. It is usual to carry out inspections under the Factories Act in conjunction with visits under the Petroleum Acts or Food & Drugs Act.

Minor contraventions of the Act have been remedied by informal action. The Wiltshire Fire Brigade have now assumed responsibility for issuing "Means of Escape" certificates.

Details of visits are as follows:-

Part 1 of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVISION AS TO HEALTH.				
Premises.	Number on Register.	Inspe- ctions.	Number of written notices.	Occup- iers prosecu- ted.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority. (Not using mechanical power).	1	1	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority. (Using mechanical power).	52	41	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (Excluding outworkers premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	53	42	-	-

Part VIII of the Act - OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111).

Eight premises are registered for outworkers for the making of wearing apparel. No premises required any action being taken.

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Insp.	by H.M. Insp.	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Lack of cleanliness (S1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S7)					-
(a) Insufficient.	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offence relating to outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL.	2	2	-	-	-

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957.

The number of premises licenced for the boiling of waste foods is five. The provisions of the Order which requires the sterilisation of all waste food before feeding livestock has without doubt borne fruit. This is shown in the lower incidence of certain diseases in pigs.

PETROLEUM ACTS.

All premises are now up to the required standard.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMPLAINTS.

<u>Type of complaint.</u>	<u>Number.</u>	<u>Remedied.</u>	<u>Outstan- ding.</u>	<u>No action necessary.</u>
Housing (excluding Council housing).	6	5	1	-
Overcrowding.	-	-	-	-
Insanitary houses.	6	2	2	2
Severage.	7	4	3	-
Drainage.	4	3	1	-
River pollution.	3	2	1	-
Water.	3	-	-	3
Refuse.	9	8	-	1
Keeping of animals.	2	2	-	-
Fly infestation.	7	7	-	-
Rodent infestation.	62	62	-	-
Footpaths.	2	2	-	-
Smoke.	-	-	-	-
Offensive accumulations.	3	3	-	-
Miscellaneous.	7	4	-	3
TOTAL.	121	104	8	9

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Miscellaneous.	57	Food shops.	122
Housing.	322	Bakehouses.	9
Nuisances.	92	Refuse.	21
Drainage.	264	Workshops & Factories.	25
Sewerage.	175	Petroleum Regulations.	118
Water supply.	74	Rodent control.	5
Water samples.	30	Council houses.	1756
Dairies.	7	Town & Country Planning.	107
Milk sampling.	62	Building inspection.	992
Food inspection.	198	Diseases in animals.	15
Infectious diseases.	32		

Appendix i.

HOUSING GENERAL - ANNUAL RETURN.

The following is a copy of the Return made to the County Medical Officer of Health which is reproduced herewith giving detailed information on certain aspects of housing:-

1. Number of permanent dwellings in the district at the end of the year.	4130
2. Number of permanent dwellings in the district owned by the Local Authority.	944
3. Number of temporary dwellings in the district owned by the Local Authority.	Nil.
4. Number of applications for Council houses at end of year.	450
5. <u>Inspection of dwellings during the year.</u>	
(i) No. of dwellings inspected under Public Health or Housing Acts.	69
(ii) Number of dwellings found to be unfit.	8
6. Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action.	12
7. <u>Action under Statutory powers:</u>	
A. <u>Proceedings under sections 9,10,12 Housing Act, 1957.</u>	
(i) Number of dwellings where notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	Nil
(ii) Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices.	Nil
(a) By owners.	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default.	Nil
B. <u>Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:</u>	
(i) Number of dwellings where formal notices were served	1
(ii) Number of dwellings made fit as a result of formal notices.	1
(a) By owners.	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners.	Nil
C. <u>Proceedings under Section 16, Housing Act, 1957.</u>	
(i) Number of Demolition Orders made.	10
(ii) Number of dwellings demolished as a result of Demolition Orders.	4
(iii) Number of Undertaking accepted to make fit or not to relet.	Nil
(iv) Number of dwellings made fit as a result of Undertakings.	Nil

D. Proceedings under sections 42,43,64,48, Housing Act, 1957.

- | | | |
|-------|---|------|
| (i) | Number of dwellings in clearance areas upon which demolition orders were made. | Nil. |
| (ii) | Number of dwellings demolished as a result of demolition orders. | 3 |
| (iii) | Number of dwellings in clearance areas which have been retained as temporary accommodation. | Nil. |

E. Proceedings under sections 17,18,27 Housing Act, 1957.
and section 26 Housing Act, 1961.

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|------|---|---|
| (i) | Number of dwellings where closing orders made. | 4 |
| (ii) | Number of dwellings closed as a result of closing orders or undertakings by owners. | 3 |

F. Proceedings under section 76 Housing Act, 1957.

- | | | |
|-------|---|------|
| (i) | Number of cases of overcrowding at end of year. | Nil. |
| (ii) | Number of cases of overcrowding discovered during the year. | Nil. |
| (iii) | Number of cases of overcrowding abated during the year. | Nil. |

